

# COMMUNIST LABOR

Official Organ of the  
COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY OF AMERICA

WORKERS OF THE WORLD  
UNITE! YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE BUT YOUR CHAINS. YOU HAVE A WORLD TO GAIN.

VOL. I. No. 5.

May 1, 1920.

5c.—\$1.50 Per Year.

## Down Tools May First, 1920

The sun of Communism is rising in the East. From Russia its invigorating rays are awakening the proletariat of the world. The workers everywhere, inspired by the success of their first workers' government will celebrate May First, their International Labor Day, with a determination only satisfied with a complete victory.

Never in the history of May First, never since the International Congress of Paris in 1889, were the prospects for a final victory of the working class brighter, never the spirit of the workers less breakable than today, on the eve of May First, 1920. Altho the capitalist governments of all countries are preparing the hang-mans noose for all those that dare to think in terms inimical to the interests and principles of man-devouring imperialistic capitalism, the working class sees in these persecutions only the last efforts of the dying beast to escape its destiny.

**MAY FIRST IS THE WORKERS DAY.**

**THE REVOLUTIONARY ADVANCE GUARD OF THE PROLETARIAT CALLS UPON THE WORKERS EVERYWHERE TO BREAK THE BONDAGE OF ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SLAVERY AND DEMONSTRATE ON THAT DAY FOR THE CAUSE OF REAL FREEDOM!**

May First is not a Labor Day decreed to you by the powers that be to dope the workers into the belief that the government stands above the classes. No! May First is the workers own day, on which, by their own determination they down tools and test their strength.

The power that decrees a holiday to you today tells you tomorrow: Thou shalt not strike!

**BUT YOUR POWER CAN TAKE A HOLIDAY TODAY, CAN STRIKE TOMORROW, IN SPITE OF EVERYTHING.**

May First, as International Labor Day, is the day on which the workers by their own action, demonstrate that they must fight for what they want, and for what they are entitled to, and that they have the power to win.

May First gives the answer of the revolutionary proletariat of all countries to the manifestations of solidarity of international capitalism.

And that answer is: **SOLIDARITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL PROLETARIAT.**

Workers of America: You have fought for higher wages for years. By hard struggle you succeeded here and there. And yet, you find yourself today as much the slave of profit-making-capital as ever.

You have fought for shorter hours. You have succeeded. And yet, today you must work more of your own life into the product of your toil on one day than when you worked 12 hours.

In years past we demonstrated for the eight hour day on May First.

Today we demonstrate for: **ALL POWER TO THE WORKERS!**

Capitalist Society is built upon our sweat and blood, our misery and want. All our "victories" on the economic field are turned against us, and our economic slavery is re-enforced by an absolute political dictatorship of capitalism. **THUS OUR ECONOMIC STRUGGLE MUST OF NECESSITY BECOME A POLITICAL ONE. THE PROLETARIAN STRUGGLE CEASES TO BE A STRUGGLE FOR HIGHER WAGES AND SHORTER HOURS, AND BECOMES A STRUGGLE FOR THE SUPREMACY OF THE WORKING CLASS.**

This struggle can only be fought to victory by the masses of the

workers. On May First the workers exercise this mass-action, demonstrating no more for the eight hour day, but for the dictatorship of the proletariat. **ON THAT DAY WE DOWN TOOLS TO SHOW OUR DETERMINATION TO FIGHT AND OUR POWER TO WIN.**

Comrades and Fellow Workers: In demonstrating our determination to fight and win we must join hands with the workers of the world. We must unite in our struggle with the revolutionary proletariat in Russia and elsewhere. They have fought our battles which they knew were theirs. We must fight their battles which we know to be ours.

Finding the capitalist governments in a conspiracy to crush the Workers' Republic of Russia it becomes our task and duty to direct our demonstration, on May First, against this murderous conspiracy.

In their actions against Russia the capitalist governments of all countries belie their phrases of "freedom" and "democracy" and demonstrate that their highest science of statesmanship is the piratical principle: Sacrifice everything, (in the name of the people, if you find fools enough to believe you) sacrifice even the people themselves for the right and the chance to make profit. Carrying out this principle with merciless rigidity they murder freedom in the name of their capitalist freedom, they suppress the people in the name of the people, their victims.

Enslaving the people economically under the disguise of a nominal political democracy, the capitalists hypocritically shed tears because the workers of Russia free the people of that country economically with the power of a dictatorship. And the answer of the capitalist dictators to the Russian people are murderous expeditions against the Soviet Republic.

Workers! To get free, you must answer the war cry of capitalism against the workers of Russia as well as the war cry in other countries with the war cry of united labor against capitalism: **THE ANSWER TO THE CAPITALISTS OF THE WORLD IN THEIR WAR AGAINST THE SOCIAL REVOLUTION IN RUSSIA AND ELSEWHERE MUST BE THE SOCIAL REVOLUTION AGAINST CAPITALISM EVERYWHERE.**

But, workers: **TO BE FREE, YOU MUST DARE TO BE FREE.** The chain holding us down in wage slavery is our submissiveness, our lack of revolutionary spirit. The determination of the workers to exert their power in united mass action aiming at the complete destruction of the capitalist dictatorship is the long range gun that will shatter the power of our exploiters.

Let the First of May, 1920, kindle that spirit.

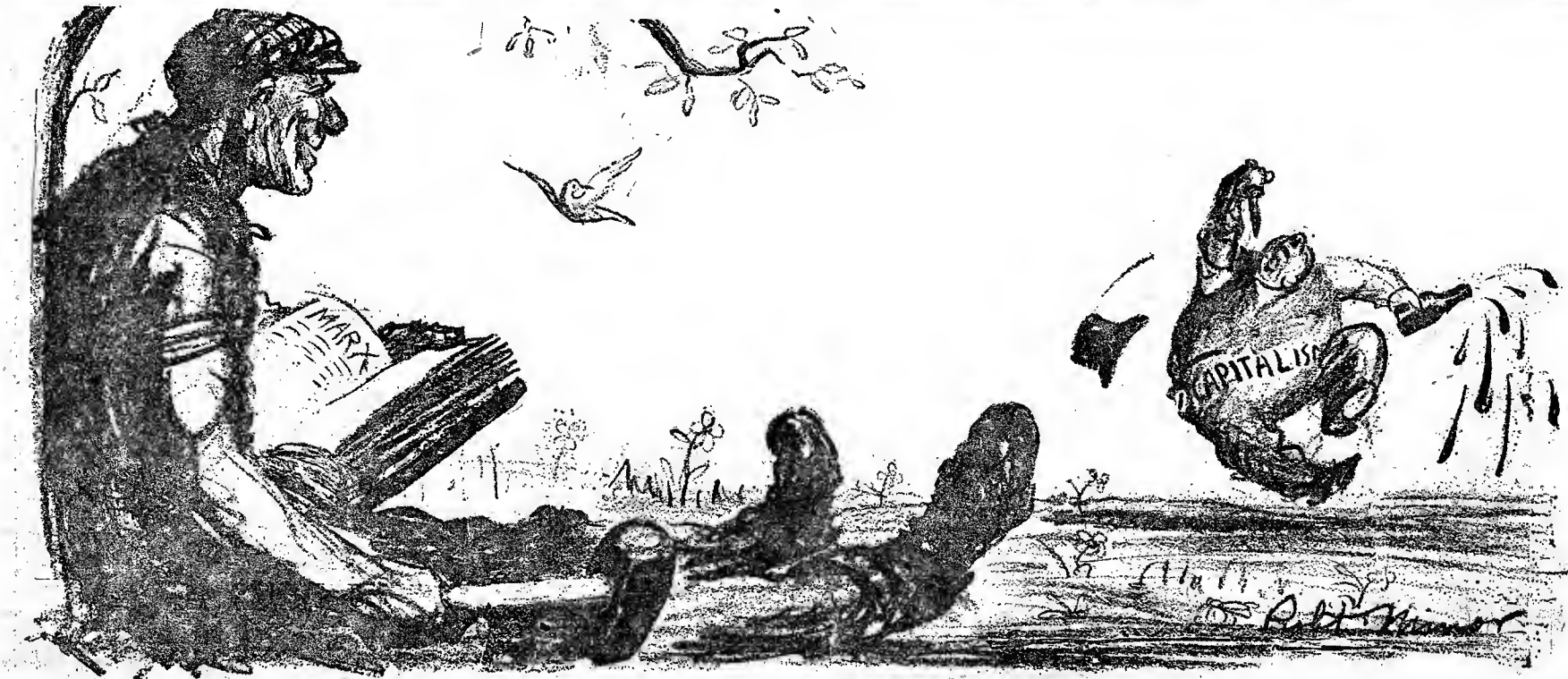
Comrades and fellow Workers: Let us be free!

**LET US DOWN TOOLS** in answer to the capitalists' war on the revolutionary proletariat everywhere.

**LET US DOWN TOOLS ON THAT DAY** in honor of the victims, the countless soldiers of the revolution that were murdered by international capitalism in its effort to save the right to make profit.

**LET US DOWN TOOLS THAT DAY** so that we may have a test of strength of the revolutionary army of the proletariat in united action the world over.

**LET US DOWN TOOLS ON THAT DAY** so that the workers may be inspired with confidence in their own power; so that May First, 1920, may awaken the spirit of revolutionary class solidarity. This spirit will unite the proletariat the world over in its fight for real



freedom. It will bring peace to the people everywhere: not the peace of the grave yard, dictated by voracious capitalist imperialism, but joyous peace known only to a free people from among whom greed and profit has been removed as cause for human slaughter.

**LET US DOWN TOOLS ON THAT DAY** as a sign of our allegiance to the principles our comrades in Russia are fighting for, to help them win their battle.

**DOWN TOOLS ON MAY FIRST, 1920.**

Let the battalions of labor demonstrate their power upon that day.

**ALL POWER TO THE WORKERS!**

**ALL INDUSTRIES TO THE WORKERS!**

**LONG LIVE THE SOCIAL REVOLUTION!**

## From the Third International

(Amsterdam Sub-Bureau)

Amsterdam, March 20th.  
Comrades:

We have learned with the utmost indignation how ruthlessly the ruling class of America is persecuting you. The brutality with which it strikes at the best workers for the cause, flogs and tortures, imprisons and deports hundreds of brave men and women, fills our hearts with the same bitter feeling of being powerless to assist you against your cruel oppressors, as we so often experienced when, in former days, the sad stories reached us of the suffering of the Russian revolutionaries.

But at the same time, the heroic way in which you are bearing up under the blow, fills us with admiration and with confidence in the future of the American working class. We know you are as yet only a vanguard; we know how American Capitalism, by combining the brutality of the former autocracy with the hypocrisy of the present, has succeeded till now in misleading the masses of the workers.

But we also know that persecutions have always been in the great epochs of the proletarian class struggle "the seed of the church." So it was with Czarism, so after the promulgation of the anti-socialist law in Germany under the rule of Bismarck; so in Russia after the terrible reaction of the years 1907-1910. Socialism always arose triumphant out of all persecutions. And so will Communism in our own days. Far from striking fear in the hearts of the fighter pledged to the revolution, the White Terror in America will arouse in thousands of workers consciousness of the class war, and the true nature of bourgeois-democracy. It will turn the thought of thousands and thousands to the principles of communism and make them realize that there is neither freedom, nor justice, nor any hope of a better life for the masses as long as the capitalist class owns and controls the machinery of production.

The social revolution is making great strides in Europe; the light that has arisen in Russia floods the West; the ideas of the mass-struggle, the soviet system, and the dictatorship of the proletariat as means of realizing the reorganization of production on communist lines gain daily in strength and sweep onward like an irresistible flood. In the whole of Central Europe Capitalism is waiting for its deathblow; in the Latin countries, — France, Italy and Spain — it is considerably weakened, being undermined by economical and political difficulties. Till now Anglo-American Capitalism stands almost unshaken, powerful and strong. Great Britain still relies on her colonial empire; she hopes to be able to avert the revolution by offering to the classes some slight betterment of their lot, by light-

ening the chains a little of the exploited hundreds of millions of her colored subjects. Well, we think Britain will soon be disappointed in her hopes. Revolt already raises its head in Egypt and in the Indies.

As for the United States, the employing classes hope to retain their power by widening the chasm between a small aristocracy of labor, led by treacherous leaders, and the masses of the workers. They hope to retain it by fooling and buying the minority, by coercing and victimizing the vanguard of the masses.

It is the glorious task of American Communists to carry on, on broader lines, the task that the I. W. W. first took in hand, to lead the masses against capitalism; to become the nucleus, the heart and the brain, of a strong and determined working class movement.

The arising of such a movement is of the utmost importance for international communism and for the cause of the social revolution. We all know that the world revolution cannot triumph, as long as Anglo-American Capitalism remains in power, and we have reason to believe that the decisive struggle between Capitalism and Communism will be waged on the American continent. Nothing short of the fall of American Capitalism will mean the end of that gigantic historical drama of which the world-war seems to have been the prologue. The ruling classes of America know this, and that is why they try to crush Communism before it has taken hold of the masses; they want to violently tear it out, before it has deeply struck root into the American soil. But you, Comrades, will not let them commit this crime; you will not let them destroy your organization or compel you to desert it; you will find ways and means to shift your methods of action, you will place your organization beyond the reach of your enemies and carry on, undaunted, the agitation amongst the masses. You will rally these to the flag of communism, to the world-wide uncompromising class war. And when the economic crisis that is spreading over the world, reaches your country, — when the revolutionary storm, kept back neither by mountain ranges nor broad oceans, rages over the American continent, — when millions of starving workers no longer, like in former times, cry out for bread, but for power, then you will lead the way to the general attack on the capitalist system. Your persecutions, your martyrdom today, your heroic struggle against fearful odds, all of this will design you for leaders of the masses just as the fortitude and determination of the Russian bolshheviks designed them to take the lead in the revolutionary struggle of 1917.

**The Executive Committee of the Amsterdam Sub-Bureau of the Communist International**

## The "Outlaw" Strike

Leadership in the American Trades Union Movement has, for reasons we will not enumerate here, become a profession. Action in the Trades Union Movement is entirely reserved to the leaders. The leader does not execute the orders of the rank and file, but the rank and file executes the orders of the leader. Thus any movement for better conditions follows established rules which make it possible to keep the Trade Union Movement a movement that moves forward at an extremely slow pace.

The movement for higher wages which is considered "lawful" begins with the presentation of demands by the leader to the boss. A certain time is given the boss to consider the demands. The boss, not willing to concede to the demands uses this time for preparations. Strikebreakers are hired. The powers of government are mobilized. Members of the underworld are secured to act as deputy sheriffs or marshalls. Sometimes the boss will start to dicker and bargain with the Union leaders after the time for consideration has elapsed, to gain more time. Finally, after the boss is good and ready, the strike is called. The strikebreakers immediately take the places of the strikers. The armed members of the underworld immediately, as guardians of the law, start to shoot and beat up strikers.

This is all according to law!

Sometimes the military power of the government is mobilized against the strikers and even their wives and children are murdered.

This, too, is according to the law!

Sometimes, the preparations of the bosses are found insufficient. Then they begin to again barter with the leaders. And then it may happen, nay, it often does happen, that just on the eve of victory the leaders agree to a compromise and order "their" men back to work.

This is all according to law, within the laws that strikes ought to respect!

In recent weeks we had a strike of railroad workers, which lacked all the essentials of a "lawful" strike.

The switchmen in the Chicago yards walked out. They did not present any demands. Really, they did not! Although they had presented their demands many months ago, still, neither the government knew, nor did the railroad magnates suspect, what these men really went out for! There is only one explanation. Palmer comes forward with that. Some mysterious man by the name of Lenin sent some mysterious messenger to the railroad workers to induce them to stop work, which is, with many of these low paid workers, synonymous with starting to starve.

These men entirely ignored their "lawful" leaders. The strike spread in spite of the leaders of the brotherhoods. The example of the men in Chicago was followed by the men in Seattle, by the men in the east, in the north, and in the south. This walk-out lacked all elements of a "lawful" strike.

The officials of the big four, who have gotten gray in their faithful service to capitalism, could not stand for such "unlawful" tendencies on the part of "their" men. They immediately transformed the union offices into strike breaking agencies. They supplied the railroad magnates with union scabs which, if they ever did think of striking, at least would respect the laws laid down by these officials and the railroad magnates government. The capitalist newspapers whose sympathy for any kind of a strike, (except in the base ball park) is always carefully concealed from the eyes of readers, used up barrels of ink condemning the "outlaw" strikers and commending the strikebreaking agencies of the brotherhoods.

The government also tried to strangle the "unlawful" strike. But the strike seemed to have no leaders, at least not the kind which decorated the brotherhoods. And the government did not dare to deal with the masses. As long as the masses are moved by union officials, a little arrest of the officials will work wonders. But when the masses move the officials, an arrest of them is a little hard on the officials but not good tactics for the bosses. What is a government going to do to such an "unlawful" strike. The "unlawful" strike does not allow itself to be broken. The rank and file is the power and it can replace arrested leaders at will.

A new spirit seems to animate the workers. Mr. Palmer, the legal brains of the business agency of American capitalist in Washington, found the source of that spirit. It is the above-mentioned mysterious Lenin. A very nice and ready-made explanation of the phenomenon. This explanation,

first, gives a chance to discredit the strikers with the dear public; and, secondly, helps to justify, the activities of this same Mr. Palmer against people that differ in their views a little from Mr. Palmer and his bosses.

Finally the government succeeds in arresting some of the leaders of this "outlaw" strike. But, somehow, it does the bosses no good. The leaders did not lead but were lead.

No question but that this is an "outlaw" strike.

The Trades Unions have outlived their usefulness as labor organizations. Their form of organization and their methods of work do not conform to the conditions that exist and dictate the relations between exploiter and exploited. There are two parties interested in concealing this deficiency. The one and foremost of these is the exploiters, the capitalists. If they can make the workers stick to that worthless form of organization, the bosses have little to fear. The other party is the bureaucracy of the Trades Unions, whose means of livelihood depend upon the existing organizations. In an unconscious alliance between these two parties it is agreed that the party of the first part will concede to the demands of the party of the second part so long as these demands do not injure the interests of the party of the first part. The party of the second part agrees to make the workers believe that these concessions are the result of the glorious fighting qualities of the Trades Unions, so that the workers will not see that they could get much more were they organized so they could exercise all their power on the economic field. Now this contract has just one flaw. It lays down the rules for action by the workers in case they wish to better their conditions. These rules represent the law laid down for the movement and for strikes. But these laws are against law. The real laws governing the relation between the workers and the bosses can not be artificial ones but are dictated by the antagonism of interests between the two. These laws demand that at a certain point, when the limit of endurance by the workers is reached, the spirit of revolt must break forth and the struggle that goes on, even though there may be apparent peace, takes the form of a real battle. In the case of the railroad workers that very thing happened, and, true to natural law and untrue to prescribed routine, the railroad workers revolted. And as this strike is lawful because it is a natural social phenomenon and only "unlawful" because it deserted the traitorous rules of the capitalists' game.

The strike is also a lawful one in this sense in another respect. When a clash of classes becomes inevitable it pushes aside all those that stand in the way. And even if the officials of the brotherhood think that the only "lawful" strike is one under their leadership, they must learn to understand that when their leadership becomes unlawful and out of harmony with the natural development of class conflicts, then not the strike, which comes in spite of them but they become unlawful.

During the war the government took over the management of the railroads and put them upon a war basis. The workers were practically in the position of conscripts and subordinated. The railroad magnates liked this condition so well that they gave orders to their tools in Washington that when the railroads were turned back to them, the workers also should be turned back, bound and gagged as they were during the war. Laws like the Lever act were the result. The gentlemen from the brotherhoods at that time protested against these acts. But now they petition the government to use these acts against the "outlaw" strikers! By this they clearly show how lawful the strike of the railroad men is. They show that the brotherhoods represent capital and that if labor wants a lawful presentation of its struggle, it has to carry on this struggle against the magnates and in spite of the brotherhoods and their officials.

The strike is also lawful from still another point of view. Palmer, the mouthpiece of the capitalists, claims that the railroad strike is an "outlaw" strike because it is not only one for the redress of genuine grievances, but is essentially a political strike against the government. The government has prescribed rules to be followed by the workers whenever they have grievances. If they do not follow these rules, their strike is one against the "authority of the government," a political strike. As capitalist society is increasingly endangered and not



dictatorship of the capitalist class appears less and less disguised. And the more the capitalist government makes its immediate economic struggle a political issue, the more the workers will be compelled to make their economic fight a political one. A strike that recognizes this is eminently lawful. That is, it complies not with the laws laid down by servants of capital, but with the laws dictated to the workers by force of conditions. To disregard these conditions would "outlaw" the workers' struggle.

The railroad strike is one of the first genuine revolts of workers of America, which will become more and more numerous as time goes on. This revolt will reconcile the laws of a strike with the natural laws of the conflict between the exploited and the exploiter and will thus legalize with the workers, the "outlaw" strike of today. Such strikes will necessarily help to transform, not only the forms of the struggle, but also the form of the organization that carries on the struggle. Just as the circum-

stances will force the workers into new forms of the struggle, it will force them into new forms of organizations and it will also force upon them new aims. The workers will realize their struggle to be part of the class struggle, which can only be fought successfully by the workers organizing as a class, fighting as a class and not as a trade, and by making the struggle consciously a political one not for immediate improvement, but for the ultimate establishment of a political dictatorship of the proletariat as a means to free the working class and the world from the bondage of wage slavery.

In this great struggle the railroad strike is an incident and a hopeful sign for the awakening of the working class. This strike, is only the beginning of that awakening, and the outcome of this struggle, though it may not be favorable for the workers involved, will not in the least alter the course of the lawful struggle of the working class for emancipation.

## About Our Socialists

The Socialist Party of the United States, after declaring thru its spokesman at Albany that their declaration of principles is not meant to be acted upon by its representatives, may consider the following addressed to it:

Captain Jaques Sadoul, addressing his Comrades in France on the question of Communist unity, writes:

"And, first of all, it is necessary to ruthlessly break with the Socialist traitors, flunkies of the bourgeoisie, and on the other hand with the opportunist Socialists, who are today defending bourgeois democracy and a parliamentary republic, and who are pretending to admit today, under pressure of the masses, the dictatorship of the proletariat and the Soviet regime, but who make thousands of reservations, hesitate, temporise, moan, so unnerving, delaying, and breaking all revolutionary enthusiasm."

And Mr. Lloyd George, speaking at a luncheon on March 26 about the Labor Party in England, said:

"It is said by some that the doctrine is not sincere; that com-

mon ownership is only put into the labor program in order to conciliate a section of the party. That is a very dangerous thing in these days. These are tropical days, when seeds put into the ground spreads, sprouts and brings forth fruit with startling rapidity. You must not put a doctrine of this kind in the forefront of the program of a powerful party and then say they mean nothing."

In other words, those that want to sit between two chairs because they lack the courage or conviction to select the one preferable, are considered with contempt because they do not mean what they say, and on the other hand, are prosecuted because they say, what they do not mean. This is the predicament of the Socialist Party. It flings about revolutionary phrases and hopes to curry favor with true revolutionists. But when it is made to answer before the master politicians, it denies its revolutionary intentions. The master politicians do not believe it and it gets a spanking just the same. Omitment from both sides is today its fate.

## Resolution Upon Intervention

The following resolution was passed at the Amsterdam Communist International conference, held recently:

A revolutionary action of the workers to force International Capital to make peace with Russia is a necessary condition to save Soviet Russia and to hasten the world revolution.

To further this action, the Communists of all lands must utilize every strike movement, every mass demonstration,

- (1) to place this aspect of their responsibilities to the Russian Revolution before the workers.
- (2) to convince them that their interests are identical with those of Soviet Russia.
- (3) to develop a strong feeling of revolutionary solidarity and revolutionary action the world over.

As the pressure of the workers upon the Governments is increasing, the tendency is for the capitalist Governments to propose a compromise peace, with the object of disintegrating Soviet Russia from within. The latest proposal to take up commercial relations through reactionary representatives of pre-revolutionary co-operative societies that have since merged into the Soviet organizations, aims at separating the peasants from the workers, and destroying the Soviet monopoly of foreign trade. Under the cloak of such manoeuvres, a great military spring offensive is being prepared which must be prevented at all costs.

It is therefore essential that this International Bureau takes immediate steps to prepare an international demonstration strike against intervention in Soviet Russia. Such a strike not alone to demand ending the blockade and intervention in Soviet Russia, but to include political and economic demands adapted to the revolutionary requirements of the conditions prevailing in each nation. This demon-

stration to be supplemented by co-ercive strikes as the workers gain strength for such further action, in which special attention has to be paid to the expedition and transportation of war materials and equipment, propaganda being carried on, to withhold labor in such instances.

The appeal to the workers for international strike action must not be made exclusively through the bureaucracy of the Trade Unions, but emphasis must be placed upon the masses in the Unions, upon extra Union mass organs, and the creation of such organs if necessary.

When the revolution again arises in Germany, or in any other country, the forces of the international proletariat (especially the transport workers in Britain, America, France, Italy, Scandinavia, Holland, Belgium, and Switzerland) must be prepared for a general strike the moment the capitalist powers attempt intervention. The Bureau is to take immediate steps for organizing this action in time to prevent the workers being again forestalled by the Governments.

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## Germany's Workers Struggle For Freedom

The German replica of the Korniloff adventure, which took the form of a Kapp-Luettwitz attempt to seize power and reestablish the monarchy, turned into a bitter struggle between the German proletariat on the one hand, and the German bourgeoisie and their paid agents—the treacherous band of Ebert-Noske—on the other. As this struggle goes on it cements the forces of reaction so openly that the heroes of the monarchist coup d'état against Ebert of yesterday are the allies of Ebert today against the workers. The Baltic troops which yesterday drove out Ebert and Noske to make room for Kapp and Luettwitz, today fight the battle of the capitalist German Republic of Ebert against working-class Germany. Such unity in the ranks of the reaction helps to open the eyes of the workers and drives the mass of the German proletariat out of the ranks of the majority Socialist traitors into the ranks of the revolutionary fighters for a proletarian dictatorship. The struggle is not over as yet. The German workers have not spoken their last word. We may rest assured that when they say this last word it will be as mighty and decisive as that which they spoke in Russia.

The events which developed in Germany during the past few weeks are enormous and significant in every respect. They did not merely show the inability and the complete bankruptcy of that order which was introduced in Germany after the overthrow of the Hohenzollerns, but they also brought the social forces of the country to that point beyond which a successful Bolshevik revolution is inevitable and is the only correct outcome of the existing situation. They have placed the country before a dilemma: either complete disintegration under the leadership of the bourgeois Junker bloc, or complete economic and political rebirth under the leadership of the working class, under the dictatorship of the proletariat. Compromises, "agreements," and yielding between the two struggling parties will not solve the problem no matter how desirable they may seem to all sorts of opportunists. The struggle would only be resumed with new strength and violence.

The entire trend of events in Germany after the Revolution of November, 1918, is a characteristic repetition of the trend of the Russian Revolution. Germany had also had her Miluykoffs, Kerenskys and Korniloffs. In Germany also the uprisings of the working masses against the new power began almost a month or two after the Revolution. In Germany also Kerenskys—more shameless and criminal than in Russia—cheated and fooled the masses, claimed to be their friends, but in reality expressed the will of the bankrupt bourgeoisie and of the decayed Junkerdom. In Germany also Kerenskys were wedged by Korniloffs and there, as well as in Russia, great exertion on the part of the proletariat was needed to crush this Junker snake, which was warming itself upon the bosom of the masses with the aid of such political nurses as the social traitor Ebert and the social executionist, Noske.

After the suppression of the proletariat revolt at the beginning of 1919 it was already evident that the detestable crime committed by the leaders of the right-wing Socialists, who deserted the camp for the German bourgeoisie, would bring the country to a state of coma. But a whole year of political debauchery, of constant lies and treachery on the part of the Ebert-Scheidemann clique was needed to sharply and clearly delineate this state of affairs. A year was required for the much-praised coalition with Junkerdom and bourgeoisie to prepare the ground for an attempt at a monarchist revolt.

And the German Korniloff period came. It could not be otherwise. There, where almost the entire old state machine was preserved; where the Hohenzollern militarism continued to play the part of "saviors of the country," with the blessings of the "socialists"; where the former bureaucracy, sprinkled with rose water, continued setting the tone of the domestic and foreign policies,—there the Korniloff period had to ensue.

And when the German Korniloff adventure came, with it came as a mockery over the working class of Germany their executionists—Ebert's and Noske's—call for their help. At another time, and under different cir-

cumstances this call would have died without response. But in this instance danger threatened not so much the "power" of the social traitors, who had suddenly turned into "lovers of workers," as it threatened the interests of the German revolution. And the German proletariat, led by communists, as in its time the Russian proletariat led by the Bolsheviks, arose in defense of the Revolution. A general strike, which spread all over Germany, broke the spine of Hohenzollern reaction. Knapp and Luettwitz fell as disgracefully as Korniloff fell in his time.

Further developments have shown that the German working masses in their stand against Kapp and Luettwitz did not have in view the saving of the Government of Ebert. Having taken up arms and having rushed the Kerenskys. The formation of arms drop, but directed them against the Kerenskys. The formation of quite large units of the Red Army; general uprising of workers in many regions; the revolt in the Ruhr Basin, in Central and Southern Germany; frequent encounters which in many places turned into real battles,—all this tends to indicate that the German proletariat cannot and does not want to be satisfied merely with a victory over Kapp-Luettwitz. It clearly strives to establish its dictatorship and will not bear either the power of Hohenzollern tails, or the power of the miserable agents of the German bourgeoisie.

The struggle continues. Great confusion was had by the compromising policy of the leaders of trade unions (how vividly this reminds us of the position of the old Russian union of Railwaymen during Kerensky's advance on Petrograd!), and the indecisive tactics of the Independent Socialists. They are still part of the tail of events. They still hesitate, when action is necessary, and compromise is still their middle name. In spite of well sounding proclamations they did not understand the character of the struggle resulting from the Knapp-Luettwitz coup d'état. The leaders of the Independents joined in negotiations with Ebert. Their bourgeois streak though will not permit them to see that the essential point is not to force Ebert or any capitalist government to do certain things that the workers want, but to throw out the Eberts and capitalists, so the workers, organized as the ruling class, can do what they want to do.

"Traitors are shot, but not negotiated with," one of the murderers of the Paris Commune said. The capitalists and their tools have always lived up to that principle in dealing with the working class, except when they were in for it and they wanted to gain time. Then they negotiated, until they were ready to crush the workers. The workers cannot lose their cause even if they lose a battle. They surely will lose the battle if they negotiate with the enemy, thereby recognizing his strength and giving him time to gain more strength.

All that the negotiations resulted in was that Ebert changed the personnel of his cabinet. He appointed Ekson in place of Noske as minister of defense. This new man immediately got busy putting down the workers. He used the intact military machine that Noske had used up to this time, and that Knapp had used for his coup d'état, and he succeeded just as Noske would have succeeded.

The German proletariat did not win its way into power. The treacherous clique of Ebert-Noske-Kapp-Luettwitz triumphed. But its triumph will not be lasting. The proletariat, once having realized its task, will carry on its fight to the last. To his lot may fall temporary defeat, but the final victory belongs to the workers, in Germany tomorrow as today in Russia.

FRATERNAL GREETINGS FROM ENGLAND.

In a congress of the rank and file of the English labor movement, held simultaneously with the official Trades Union Congress to keep watch upon the latter. Comrade McAlpine, of the Communist Labor Party of America, tendered fraternal greetings to the English comrades and reported about the persecutions of the reds in the land of the free and the home of the brave. The answer of the congress was a resolution conveying fraternal greetings to the American comrades, which was adopted unanimously.

# COMMUNIST LABOR

Published Twice Monthly by the

COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY OF AMERICA

5 Cents a Copy. \$1.50 Per Year. Special Rates for Bundle Orders.

Send all communications and remittances thru regular party channels.

VOL. I. No. 5.

May 1, 1920.

## Debs and Socialist Unity

"Unity of Socialist elements in the United States" has become the hobby-horse with which some Socialist-party-ites are parading in order to lure some stray comrades back into the folds of that organization. Some of these persons are well meaning. But they do not understand the fundamental differences between Lenin and Scheidemann, (if we may express principles in names of those who represent them). But the greater number of them feel an uncontrollable longing for the nickels and dimes of the tens of thousands of members, that the late executive committee of the late Socialist Party has thrown out. The deep love of these right wingers for the Non-Partisan League and the coming Labor Party was prevented from ending in a happy marriage by the lefts, and with a temper, only inspired by unsatisfied love, they concocted a scheme to get rid of the obstacle. So they expelled the left wing, nearly half the party and half of the half that was left then quit in disgust. But now other obstacles prevent the finalization of the marriage, so these politicians realize, first, that they have robbed their party of the only excuse it had for posing as a revolutionary party by throwing out the revolutionists, and second they have, and this is something to be still more regretted, lost countless nickels and dimes which otherwise would have probably found their way into their till.

We neither have time, nor do we desire to here investigate deeper into the real cause of the unity move. Suffice it to say that in the desire to bring about unity they hit upon the scheme to induce Eugene V. Debs to accept the nomination for president from the Socialist Party, as undesirable as his candidacy may have been to them otherwise. And Debs, noble heart, bent down by the knowledge of the feud within the ranks of the socialists, accepts, and so unconsciously helps to play the game of the scheming gents in the Socialist Party.

Without going into the question deeply by writing a necessarily extensive treatise on the fundamentals of communism there might be said just this about the question of unity:

We would advise Debs to read the arguments filed by Mr. Stedman in behalf of the Socialist Party in the court action of that party against the Communist Party in Detroit, Mich. We would further advise him to read the transcript of the Albany "Trial."

Should the communists unite with Stedman, who denounces them in a capitalist court as enemies of capitalist society, in order to induce that court to take property, bought and paid for by the defendants, away from them and turn it over to the law abiding Socialist Party?

Or shall the communists unite with Mr. Hilquit who assured the sub-committee of the Assembly in Albany that the socialists surely

would shoulder a gun and fight for "their" country should the Bolsheviks "attack" it?

Or could the communists form a happy union with Mr. Waldman, who swore to the conviction, that he would by all means prefer the capitalist constitution of the capitalist ridden state of New York to the dictatorship of the working class as desired by the Bolsheviks?

Or should the communists unite with Mr. Berger, whose hatred for them is only exceeded by his love for capitalism, and compared to whom even Scheidemann is a ravine "radical"?

Now all these persons and their acts are mere incidents that can not determine the possibility or advisability of unity. These incidents, however, show us the fundamental differences in the conception of these "Socialists" and the communists. **These differences prove conclusively that there can be no unity between the two, except the communists betray the working class, whose advance-guard they are, or these "Socialists" desert the capitalist class whose rear guard they are.** One is as impossible as the other with out one of the two giving up its principles and accepting the principles of the other. And Debs surely would not want the communists to desert the working class in order to strengthen the rear-guard of capitalism!

What does unity mean?

When is unity desirable?

For many years the fight between the right and the left in the German Social Democratic Party was carried on. The split was always avoided with the merely sentimental plea for unity. Unity of organization was thus preserved.

But did the German working class profit by that unity?

It did not!

On the historical 4th of August, 1914, the left was overwhelmed by the right and, for a moment at least, acquiesced in the betrayal of the German working class by the Social Democratic Party. And when at last the left realized the impossibility of unity of organization when unity of purpose is lacking, and when they finally broke away, they had to do it at a time when their chances for organization were below zero on account of the conditions created by the war. And in the November days of 1918 the left was too weak to send the Scheidemanns after their master Wilhelm into exile. The unity of organization so long preserved in Germany, then proved a detriment to the revolutionary power of the workers. The right wing of Scheidemann and Noske assassinated the left of Luxemburg and Liebknecht with the power that the Scheidemanns could never have gotten without the help of the Luxemburgs and Liebknechts during the long period of unity.

Should we learn from history, or should we close our eyes to it

## The Communist Party Splits

The left-wing of the Socialist movement in this country, from its inception, contained an element that claimed to be the exclusive 100 per cent pure communists, and that the communist movement, to be protected from adulteration, must either remain under the unrestricted control of these 100 per centers—or must confine its personnel to these apostles.

The activities of that group led to the split in the left wing movement, which eventually led up to the formation of the two parties, the Communist and the Communist Labor Parties. The former would never have seen the light of day had it not been for the fact that the majority of the left wing council was dazzled with the glittering arguments of the 100 per centers and did not heed the warning given against the rule or ruin tactics of that element. These "Communists" had built up a machine for control within the Russian and other language federations and insisted upon the continuation of the autonomous federations because only through them could they hope to completely dominate and control the Communist movement. So the question of autonomous federations became the bone of contention, though the real question was; control or no control through these self-appointed apostles.

Those that were more concerned with the building up of a communist movement than with the question of control, continued their labor in spite of all accusations of "mensheviki" or "centrists" hurled against them, in spite of the further accusations that those who had organized the Communist Labor Party had split the American movement.

History has vindicated the Communist Labor Party. Those of the left wing council that deserted the left wing to join the 100 per centers found, to their sorrow, that they had made a mistake. They found that under the cloak of the argument, that strict centralization of power in the communist movement was necessary, there was hidden away contempt for the workers, for the rank and file, who were supposed to play the part of stage decorations in the drama to be enacted by the coming revolution. They saw their mistake and were compelled to take the only means to rectify it; to split away from the 100 per centers whom they now discovered to be more impure than true, and to split the Communist Party.

Recently, during a four days' conference of the Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party, to which were invited the district organizers and the representatives of the federations, the split became an established fact. The voting power in the conference was confined to the members of the C. E. C. The vote stood 5 to 4. The minority of 4 broke away, together with all district organizers except one, and with the representatives of the German, Ukrainian, South Slavic, Estonian and Polish Federations. Both sides immediately sent out their emissaries to explain the split to the membership and it now remains to be seen what stand the rank and file will take.

It is to be hoped that this split will bring about a clean division between those that are concerned mainly with the formation of a strong communist movement, and those that are concerned with the questions of control and careers. A unity between the former and the C. L. P. ought to be effected within a very short time and with the help of the united efforts of all true communists, we should now succeed in making the American branch of the Third International a worthy part of that great movement.

for the sweet sounds of a sentimental plea?

Should the communists of America unite with the Scheidemanns here merely on a sentimental plea for unity?

They cannot!

They will not!

The day will come when capitalism in this country will call upon its rear-guard, the petit bourgeois Socialist Party, to save the day for capitalism, just like the German capitalists called upon the German Social-Democratic Party there for that purpose. On that day, the first day of the revolution, the communists in this country will be faced by the daggers and bayonets of the Stedman Scheidemanns. The communists will not unite and wait until they are assassinated by these friends of capitalism in the name of law and order, capitalist law and order. No, the communists of America are on their guard. They organize their forces for that day, so they may not be caught napping.

Socialist unity means more than some 100,000 people paying dues into the same treasury.

Revolutionary socialist unity means more than some 100,000 workers voting for one and the same man for president, even if that man happens to be such a lovable and incorruptible Socialist as Eugene V. Debs.

Eugene V. Debs as the presi-

dential candidate of the Socialist Party is not acceptable in that capacity to the communists, no matter how acceptable he would be as a member of the communist organization.

Revolutionary Socialist unity must be a unity of action obtainable only by a unity of purpose.

The purpose of the communist movement in the United States and the world over is the destruction of the machinery of the capitalist state. It aims to replace this state by a proletarian dictatorship, exercised through workers' councils. And the purpose of this dictatorship is the creation of a free communist society thus abolishing the state.

A unity upon that program is not only desirable but necessary. Such unity, however, cannot be accomplished by the Socialist Party and the communists coming together. It can only be accomplished if the revolutionary workers gather around the banners of communism. They must leave the Socialist Party and its leaders because these leaders are misleading the working class with their Socialist party.

For a unity under the banner of communism we are glad to join hands with Eugene V. Debs. But the first provision is that Debs himself leave the Scheidemanns and join the real forces of the proletarian revolution, the communist movement of America.

### OUR BEST PROPAGANDISTS

Capitalism carries on a more effective propaganda for us among the masses than we ourselves could ever hope to achieve by our own efforts. The international profiteer is our best propagandist. It is true we owe much to war, but I do not fear peace, for the incurable avidity and corruption of the capitalist classes will survive and paralyze its healing effects. The cost of living, instead of diminishing, is still increasing steadily in most countries. The lust of gain of the international exploiters, bourgeois financiers, manufacturers and tradesmen is still unslacked, and they are conspiring to prevent return of normal conditions, totally unconcerned of the fact that they are preparing their own destruction.—Lenin.



# CHEATERS

Down goes the curtain. The farce is over.

It was staged with such excellent talent that it would have, without a doubt, pleased the audience immensely, had the actors, all of them, not insisted upon attempting to create the impression that it was a tragedy. As it is, there is now a feeling in the vast audience which witnessed the show thru the daily press, that they were cheated. And indeed, the only epitaph that can fittingly be placed upon the cover of the volume containing the transcript of the Albany trial is "CHEATERS."

The Assembly at Albany, N. Y., by an overwhelming majority, has definitely ousted the five "Socialist" assemblymen.

To really understand and enjoy the farce it is necessary to know (1st) that the Assembly pretended

ple" to do only those and just those things, that will not endanger the rule of the capitalists. It is a most convenient cloak for the dictatorship of the capitalists and bears the name "Democracy." Should anyone dare to attempt to attack bourgeois class rule, he is prosecuted, not as an enemy of capitalist class rule, but as an enemy of the constitution, an enemy of the "peoples' rights, an enemy of "Democracy." Whenever "Democracy" is defended in capitalist society, this democracy means rule for profit by profiteers.

Now, we are not utopians. We know that it can not be otherwise. We know that democracy can have no existence as a pure spirit, but that it must, as a material entity, conform to the rules of reality. These rules, in a society composed of classes with conflict-

its honor.

But that can not be done.

Why could there be nothing saved for the Socialist Party but its honor?

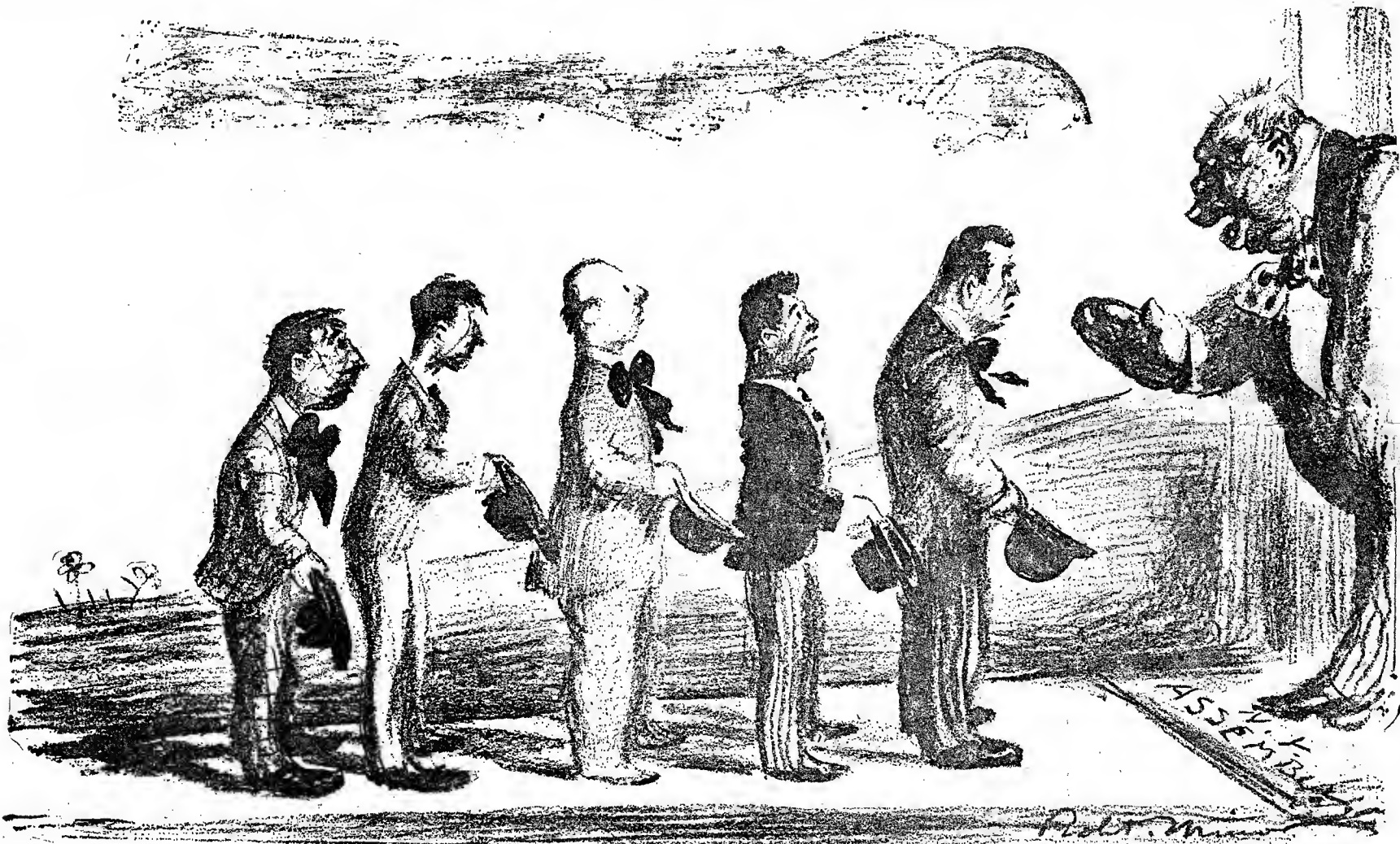
Because it refrained from being revolutionary in action and confined itself to empty revolutionary phrases in its manifestoes and proclamations. It failed to organize the revolutionary strength of the working class.

Being petit bourgeois in character and understanding, it accepted the pretense of democracy heralded by the capitalist class as true gospel, walked in the clouds of phrases of freedom, seeking a revolutionary outlet, which, even if they would have found, they would have refused to use. It called upon the workers to allow them to free the working class by electing them, the "Socialists" to office. On their democratic right

to an expression of fear the minute they awake to the fact that they face the working class.

Because the Socialist Party failed to realize this does not necessarily condemn it. It may plead ignorance on this point, which absolves it of any treacherous intent and simply establishes the fact, that the Socialist Party is not and can not be a revolutionary party, because it lacks the very elements of such a movement. Therefore, had the Socialist Party gone to Albany and defended itself by accepting the "democratic" pretense and premise, it could have saved its petty bourgeois honor. Not as a revolutionary party; because that it is decidedly not. But as a "democratic" party, a "peoples' party, or a "labor" party.

But the Party officialdom decided to stake even the honor of the party in order to save its seats. It stood before the bar of the Assembly trembling in its boots, and stammering like a child



**"Don't need no Parliamentary Socialists today; come back when the revolution is on. I'll need you then to help me stay in power under the cloak of your kind of Socialism."**

to act as the "saviors" of the rights of the people, and (2nd) that the Socialist Party elected its assemblymen under the pretense of a revolutionary party.

As vestal virgins, a role so eminently befitting the Sweets and McCues, the Assembly claimed to be watching the fire of "Democracy" and the welfare of the people. In the name of the people they thundered: "You people of this and that assembly district can not elect whomever you please! In the name of the people, elect one of our gang!" The best point of the whole farce was just this,—that the Sweets, knowing that the Socialists meant them no harm, succeeded in making others believe that the ousted assemblymen were revolutionists.

The Constitution limits the rights of the "people" to this extent, that the exercise of these rights do not endanger capitalist class rule. In other words, the Constitution is not a guaranty of the rights of the people, but guarantees the prerogatives of the ruling class, allowing the "peo-

ing interests, demand that the constitution shall not be a theoretical thesis about a still more theoretical freedom, but that it should be a sober and cold document, regulating the relation of the classes and preserving the power for the ruling class. The revolutionary socialists know that, and base their action upon that knowledge. They know, that so-called democracy is not a rule of the people, but only a stage setting used to disguise the dictatorship of the capitalist class.

The Socialist Party and its spokesmen, accepting the pretense of democracy on the side of the New York Assembly, have shown thereby, that their own claim of being, or representing, a revolutionary party, is only a pretense.

The Socialist Party had nothing to save but its honor. It staked this honor, and lost it, in order to save its seats in the Assembly, though even the blind could see that these seats were lost at the outset. Now the Socialist Party to complete its role in this farce, calls upon the workers to restore

of electing and being elected, these modern Christs would march into the modern temples, and, while the workers peacefully went about their daily labors, these modern saviours intended to drive out the money-lenders. They never realized, because they lacked revolutionary understanding, that the money-lenders might drive them out. More than that. They never really wanted to drive out the money-lenders. Otherwise they would have realized that the only power that can drive out the money-lenders are the workers as a class. In other words, The power of the workers does not rest in their parliamentary representatives, but the power of these representatives rests with the workers. If a revolutionary party fails to realize this and fails to organize this power, it seals its own fate as a revolutionary organization.

As long as the capitalist class has only to face Waldmans, Hillquits and Stedmans in the legislative halls it will laugh at the revolution. Their laugh will freeze in-

afraid of punishment: "I did not do it! I am innocent!" Not only did this party officialdom deny what it should have answered with contempt as invented accusations, but even to the charge that the party tried or intended to carry out its platform these officials answered, stammeringly: "Please, we did not do it; please, we will never do it again!" These contemptible cheaters had even the face to condemn Bolshevism, while their National secretary was preparing an application for admission into the Third International.

How often have these gentlemen told the workers to vote for them because their representatives would be forced by the party to resign if they did not live up to the party's pledges. Accused of that, they stammered: "Please, we did not do it." How often have these gentlemen told the workers: elect us, and we will vote against military expenditures. Accused of that, they stammered: "Please, we did not do it." They even placed in evidence the treason committed

# Lenin as Scholar and Writer

There is no other man who enjoys as much popularity at present as does Lenin. The press is full of him, and not one speech on the burning questions of the day is made without the mention of his name. In churches, at public meetings and conferences, in parliaments and schools one hears his name mentioned time and again.

And it is quite natural that in this period of great social upheaval through which we are now passing, this name, indissolubly bound up with the Russian proletarian revolution, should be familiar to every statesman, politician, scientist, every worker and capitalist, nay, to every citizen. At a time when the old structure of society is collapsing, when the institutions which to so many seemed indestructible are beginning to give way and topple over, it is natural the Lenin—the Bolshevik, the symbol of those forces which are destroying the old systems and creating a new life—should be spoken of and discussed everywhere. And day in and day out this name is being mentioned the world over.

Lenin seems on the mind of all. Some think of him with great love and admiration, others with intense hatred and venom. But even many of those who consider themselves his adherents and followers, have a very one-sided conception of Lenin. They speak of him as the leader of the Russian revolution, as a daring and self-sacrificing man, whom the revolutionary wave has brought forward on its crest, making him the standard-bearer of the working class. till many do not know that Lenin is not only a great statesman, but an eminent scholar, that he is not only the mouthpiece of the working class, but a distinguished writer as well.

It is his activities as scholar and writer that we shall briefly discuss in this article.

The scope of a newspaper article will not permit us to dwell at length on the main works which he produced during the twenty-five years of his literary career. It will, therefore, be necessary to confine our review to his principal theses which pass, like a golden thread, through all his principal works—books as well as numerous pamphlets, magazine and newspaper articles.

The most striking feature of Lenin's literary activity is his brilliant defense of the teachings of Karl Marx and Frederick Engels, these fathers and founders of scientific socialism. Lenin was and still remains one of the best expounders of these teachings. He always did and still does defend Marxism against all attacks and against

by their representative in Congress, Meyer London, a treason toward the working class that would forever exclude a person from an organization of revolutionary workers.

And to crown all that, the representatives of this same party now appeal to the workers they have betrayed to help them back into their seats, out of which they have just now been thrown. After they have played the contemptible role of the sinner that stammers to save him from punishment: "Please, I did not do it; please, I did not mean it," they now appear before the workers again, remembering the old democratic ghost story, and demand to be returned as a measure to save democracy. We realize that they cannot go before the workers and tell them: we are good capitalist servants. That is, they cannot use the same line of defense with the workers as they used in Albany. But that only multiplies their guilt. It adds to all the same and treachery the crime of contempt toward the very workers the Socialist Party claims to represent.

So here we have it. A capitalist assembly, crucifying the "peoples' rights" under the pretense of saving them, and representatives of the workers betraying the workers under the pretense of revolutionary activities. Behold them and then judge for yourself whether "we are justified in calling them—"Cheaters."

attempts to distort it, no matter whence they come.

But it would be an error to suppose that Lenin limited his works to the mere defense of Marxism. As Zinoviev aptly remarked, "Lenin is one of the few Marxian scholars who have further developed the Marxian theories, who have added something original and know how to apply it to the conditions of a new epoch pregnant with the most significant consequences." And to do this, everywhere to point out the revolutionary essence of those teachings, to demonstrate that the fundamental laws of social progress as outlined by Marx and Engels are manifesting themselves in the very course of events as beacon lights on the road toward the emancipation of the proletariat—is undoubtedly the greatest service which was ever rendered by any writer or scholar during the last few decades. This honor has fallen to the share of Nicolai Lenin.

The Marxian controversy was of particular significance in Russia, for in that country which has, comparatively, only recently entered the stage of capitalist development, Utopian views as to the possibilities of avoiding or skipping the capitalistic phase of development are particularly widespread. The period of acutest struggle took place in the 90's. And among the writers who have dealt particularly heavy blows to these Utopian and reactionary views, Lenin occupies a place of honor. In a series of articles written in the 90's and pub-

lished in 1899 under the general title "Economic Monographs and Articles," and particularly in his main work, "The Development of Capitalism in Russia," Lenin laid bare the unscientific basis and the petit bourgeois nature of the ideas and views of a group of writers known as "Populists" ("Narodniki") who devised ways of their own for the economic development of Russia and who pinned their hopes to the rural communes and the instinctive "Socialistic" spirit of the peasantry. He proved that to fight against the penetration of capitalism into Russia was both Utopian and reactionary, that capitalism whose growth the "populists" were eager to arrest, had already arrived and was winning for itself ever larger spheres not only in industry, but in agriculture as well; that the peasantry was disintegrating and that the number of industrial wage workers was growing very rapidly, apace with the number of propertyless and landless peasants. And the logical deduction from these facts was self-evident—not a senseless struggle against the development of capitalism in Russia, but a struggle against the capitalist system as a whole and the organization of the proletariat—its grave-diggers—into a revolutionary socialist party for this purpose.

We may say without hesitation that Lenin's book, "The Development of Capitalism in Russia," dealt a death blow to the "Populist" movement in the domain of economics. The strength of this blow can be likened

## COMMUNIST UNITY IMPERATIVE

Lately a dispatch made the rounds of the daily press according to which the Letts are reported to have captured a courier from Russia carrying letters to the American Communist Parties, advising them to unite. A detailed report of the contents of these letters, printed in the New York World of March 29th, leaves very little doubt that the letters are genuine. Though they have been edited by the reporter, they in substance give a clear resume of the conditions.

"The concentration of American bourgeois forces," the document relating to the question of Unity reads, "has increased to an unprecedented extent, and the struggle demands unprecedented sacrifices. The split is not caused by any profound differences of opinion as regards the program. At bottom are but certain disagreements as to tactics, principally questions of organization. Under such circumstances the split has not the slightest justification and should be liquidated at once."

... "In so far as both parties stand on the platform of the Communist International — and of this we have not the slightest doubt — a united party is not only possible but absolutely necessary, and the executive committee insists on this being immediately brought about."

As a basis for unity the report continues, the Communist International and the orders of its Executive Committee should be taken. These orders, together with the fundamental principle of the Third International are summed up in the following nine points:

1. The communists should strive to unite all elements which recognize the seizure of power by the working-class through workers councils, and the establishment of a proletarian dictatorship.
2. There should be a complete break with the old Socialist Parties, though individual members of those parties should be accepted as members of the communist organization.
3. The stage of verbal propaganda has passed and the time for decisive battles has arrived. Revolutionary mass action must be organized as a first essential.
4. Co-operating to hasten the process of dissolution of all craft unions, the party must strive to establish the closest connection with the one big union movement. Supporting the industrial unions in their every-day strikes for direct demands, the party should strive to deepen and widen the struggle and convert it into a struggle for final revolutionary aims.
5. Supporting the formation of factory committees, which are to serve as the nucleus for soviet management when the revolution is achieved.
6. The chief function of the so-called national (foreign) federations is to prepare foreign workers to take places in the English speaking communist movement. Though the sudden and complete break-up of these federations is undesirable, they must be subjected to their real purpose.
7. During the revolution the absolute control over the affairs must be secured for the working-class by an unlimited dictatorship of the proletariat.
8. Establish large newspapers that will give real news from a communist viewpoint.
9. Establish underground organizations, even though it may be possible to function legally, for the purpose to carry on direct revolutionary propaganda among the masses.

The united parties should be known as the United Communist Party of America.

The Communist Labor Party stands ready to unite upon the above basis with all communist elements in the United States. It insists, however, that the form of language federations which the united party should agree to is not that of autonomous federations, which subject the party to their control and incidentally give control of the party to unscrupulous persons who sell the welfare of the communist movement for personal aggrandizement.

to that of another blow which had been dealt to the same movement in the domain of sociology, by the father of the Russian Social-democracy—G. Plekhanov

Marxism passes like a golden thread

fence of the fundamental theses of We have stated above that the de- through all of Lenin's works. This can be seen in his first book as well as in the works published quite recently. Of the latter let us mention his interesting book, "Imperialism, the Latest Stage of Capitalism," richly illustrated with statistical data (the book was written in 1915 and published in 1917), and a study of the development of capitalism in the field of agriculture in the United States ("New data Regarding the Law of Capitalist Development in Agriculture," 1917). The former books contains a series of data on the rapid concentration of industry in the largest capitalist countries. Lenin shows how the domination of finance-capital has come about and how in the final analysis the world was divided among the various trusts and the capitalists countries backing these trusts. In the second book he shows the rapid development of capitalism in American agriculture, accompanied by the growth of hired labor, the replacement of small farms by large ones and the ruin of the small farmer, all of which he bases on the data furnished by the 12th and the 13th census.

But economics is not the only field in which Lenin has put up a brilliant defense of Marx's teachings. He defended him and still does defend him very ardently in the realm of philosophy, sociology and politics.

The writer recalls the period of reaction which the Russian political emigres experienced abroad in 1907—1911. Such eminent writer as Bogdanov and Lunacharsky sponsored the tendency of injecting into Marxism the fashionable semi-idealistic philosophy of Mach-Avenarius—called forth an attack on the part of Plekhanov, which he delivered with his usual brilliancy. And Lenin who for several years prior to that had fought Plekhanov—the Menshevik, did not hesitate to join forces with him at this point in a common fight against the Bolsheviks—Lunacharsky and Bogdanov. He not only supported Plekhanov, but he made a thorough study of philosophic problems and attacked the "menders" of the Marxian philosophy in his book "Materialism and Empirio-criticism. Critical notes on a Reactionary Philosophy."

When it comes to attempts to adulterate Marxism, or to render it respectable, to exterminate its revolutionary soul and to "make it harmless" to the capitalist world, Lenin attacks the perpetrators with his usual determination, no matter whom he may hit. Lenin rightly considers such people as harmful to the revolution, harmful to the great cause to which the fathers of scientific socialism—Marx and Engels called the proletariat. And he constantly attacks them with his usual aptitude, knowledge and ardor. A profound student of the works of Engels, he exposes those would be "popularizers," but actual distorters of Marx's teachings, he points out wherein they have misunderstood the texts which they quote from the writings of the teachers, and having misunderstood, have distorted, and where they deliberately misquoted it; and he immediately restores the genuine text, supporting his contentions by numerous references to the co-text, giving a complete, well composed picture of the most revolutionary and profound system of thought which the world has ever known. In this respect the articles written by Lenin during the war are particularly valuable. They were collected and published under the title "Against the Current." Equally important are his pamphlets "The State and Revolution" and "The Proletarian Revolution and the Renegade Kautsky."

All of his journalistic and party activities were directed towards the defense of the basic theories expounded by Marx, the explanation of their real meaning and significance and their application to the concrete conditions of actual life. A Marxist must consider actual life, the facts of reality, and not continue to hang on to the theory of yesterday, which, like every theory, at best merely outlines the approach towards grasping the complexity of life," says Lenin in his basis, the generalities, and makes an "Letters on Tactics." And he faithfully follows this rule. Equipped with a knowledge of the Marxian theory he carefully analyzes real life, its economic and social conditions, and on this basis he builds an organization, and works out a program and tactics. This can be observed in all of his pamphlets, magazine and newspaper articles written on questions of organization, program and tactics. This



can be seen in his polemics with the pseudo-Marxians and pseudo-revolutionists in the party ranks, beginning with the pamphlet, "The Problems of the Russian Social-Democrats," written in 1897, and gradually passing over to the "Iskra" of the first period, his pamphlets "What to Do," "One Step Forward, Two Steps Backward," "Two Policies of the Social-Democrats During a Democratic Revolution," "The Dissolution of the Duma and the Aims of the Proletariat," and others. In the series of newspaper articles and pamphlets, written during the period between the two revolutions of 1905 and 1917 and during the latter, he explained the part which the proletariat had really played in the revolution and the necessity of preparing for the final struggle and accomplishing the titanic task of house-cleaning and construction within the party. He cleared the party atmosphere of that mustiness which had made itself felt from time to time as a result of the distortion of the Marxian ideas or, as he put it, "of the attempts to sterilize the live revolutionary soul."

Lenin fought against "Economism," revolutionary adventurism, and Menshevism. At the same time he stirred up thought and helped construct the bolshevist, class-conscious, revolutionary organization which later on was called upon to play so important a part in the Russian Revolution. And everything that came from his pen during that period, as well as at other times, served the same cause to which he had devoted all his strength, his energy and his extraordinary abilities—the cause of emancipation of the working class from capitalist oppression.

The teachings of Marx and Engels have always been and still are to Lenin, the scholar and writer, a torch-light along his ardent path. And with unusual care he kept the flame burning, and preserved it against the enemies who attempted to reduce it to a smouldering splinter. He carried it through all the storms and against all obstacles, finally transforming it into a beacon and guide not only for the Russian proletariat, but for the proletariat the world over.

#### TO THE RESCUE OF DEMOCRACY

Mr. Elihu Root and princess Cantacuzine-Speransky are appealing to the American public to organize a relief for Russian refugees. It is our conjecture that these refugees, in order to get consideration from the Relief committee, are of the type of princess Conta-etc.

Mr. Root said that it was a question of aiding Democracy in Russia. It is, he said, a question whether the people should rule or the workers.

We really appreciate Mr. Root's opinion. His democratic heart is suffering terribly. It was all right under democratic Czarism for about 1,000,000 Russian capitalists and nobles to suppress, starve, imprison or exile 100,000,000 workers of Russia. But it does not agree with Mr. Root's hyper-democratic nerves to see the 100,000,000 workers strave the 1,000,000 capitalists and nobles, because the latter refuse to work.

Princess Conta-etc. said that the relief was mainly to help the refugees of such eminent fighters for Democracy as Kolchack and Denikin. What ails them, anyhow? As far as we know, the allies have, up to this time, defrayed all expenses of their democratic escapades. And now that they cannot deliver the goods and now that the allies have stopped their subsidies, the dear old American public is appealed to, to save those parasites from being compelled to work—pardon—we meant to say to save Russia for democracy.

But, to tell the truth, we believe that Princess Conta-etc., and Mr. Root, are not peeved about the workers in Russia because they disregarded democracy, but because they carry democracy too far. To everybody a vote, with many exceptions, is all right, but to make everybody work, without exception, that is carrying democracy too far!

#### IN NEXT ISSUE

Not wishing to use space in this May First issue for party news, for to publish all correspondence pertaining to unity negotiations would take nearly a third of the paper, we announce its inclusion in the next issue.

The first installation of the Zinovieff speech on Lenin will also appear in the next issue of Communist Labor.

## THINGS WORTH KNOWING

#### Socialist Victories.

The outcome of the elections in Milwaukee, Wis., and in Davenport, Ia., are heralded in the papers of the Socialist Party, as Socialist victories. Some victories!!

In order to be victories Socialism should have been an issue in the campaigns. But instead, low taxes were an issue; low street car fares was an issue; everything was an issue, except socialism.

And after every city in the U. S. has become a Milwaukee and a Davenport with a "Socialist" administration, we will be just as far from Socialism as is Milwaukee from Russia. And on the day Socialism becomes the issue, the Socialist administrations of Milwaukee and of Davenport will become the leaders of the "Socialist" voters of these cities, but not in the red army, but in the white army of the reaction.

#### Deportations.

The agency of American capitalism in Washington, acting under the label of a government of the people, has decided to deport 390 enemies of capitalism out of the 3000 recently arrested by the Department of "Justice." The 390 have committed the unheard of crime of being members of the communist Labor Party and Communist Party, and believe that production for need should replace production for profit. About 1400 cases are still pending and about 2000 warrants issued by the Department have not been served as yet. It is rumored that a boat-load of deporters will be exported May 1st, this to have the effect of postponing the May First revolution!

#### About John Reed.

Assistant State Attorney H. Berger, of Cook county, special representative of the M. & M. Association of Illinois in the Department of Justice in Cook county for the persecution of the reds, in order to excuse his inability in producing his victims in court, has given out the report, that John Reed, international secretary of the Communist Labor Party, has been arrested in Finland and shot as a Bolshevik courier. The case has for some time taken up considerable space in the capitalist papers who could hardly refrain suppressing their delight about the rumor. These papers are such staunch supporters of the theory that an American citizen must have the right to unmolested travel whenever and wherever he pleases, that it comes hard for them not to shout for joy, when they hear that an American citizen, who happens to be a red, has been arrested and shot just because he dared to travel through Finland, which, with the help of the same papers, has been made "safe for democracy."

We are glad to correct the report of Mr. Berger. Official advices from Finland to the Department of State in Washington, state that Comrade Reed has not been executed, that he is still very much alive and healthy. He is in jail in Abo, Finland, under the charge of smuggling, (smuggling Bolshevik ideas). Upon his person were found money and valuables amounting to about 800,000 Finish Marks, and radial propaganda material, the exact value of which was not stated in the dispatches. Possibly there was no one present at the search fit to estimate it correctly.

#### Reconstructing the International.

The French Socialist Party is still busy, like its American twin brother, attempt to revive the already decaying body of the second International. It seems to lack courage and has not the conviction to join the Third. It is willing to ally itself with a dead corpse rather than be forced to revolutionary activities through affiliation with the only revolutionary International, the Third.

In "Le Populaire" of March 5th, Paul Faure states that the E.C. of the French Socialist Party intends now (1) to send a delegate to Moscow, to put the case of the Party before Lenin; (2) to send delegates to Germany, Switzerland, Spain and England, to plead the cause of international proletarian unity; (3) to send an "ambassador" to the Italian Party, which has the confidence of the Bolshevik chiefs, to enlist its aid in the "reconstruction" of the International.

#### A Peasant Revolt.

"L'Humanite," of March 7th, reports that an agricultural labourers' strike has begun in the district of Bas-Adour (S.W. corner of France). The metager (stock and land-lease) peasant farmers complain of having

to pay their rents in kind, and in some cases a case of a holder of 2 hectares who in one year had to pay 1,100 francs worth (\$200) of agricultural products, and 340 francs (\$67) in cattle and poultry. Imposing demonstrations of organized rural workers, headed by red flags, have taken place at St. Vincent-de-Tyrosse and Peychorade; at Rivesaltes ("Populaire," March 9th) a general strike has taken place in sympathy with the land workers.

#### Swiss Party Falls in Line.

The Central Committee of the Socialist Party in Switzerland decided, at its meeting April 17, to adhere to the Third International and instructed its chairman to carry out this decision immediately.

This decision without a doubt, is in accordance with the wishes of the membership today though last year the members voted in referendum against the affiliation and only for the withdrawal from the Second International.

#### Polish Workers Demand Peace.

It is wonderful how little nationality counts in the nature of the social-patriots of all countries. Thus we read in the "Abend" an account of a socialist meeting in Lemberg at which the Polish "Socialist," Dazinski spoke on "Peace with Soviet Russia." He was good enough, indeed, to admit that the Russian peace offer was quite sincere, but drew the attention of the meeting to the fact (?) that should peace be established the cost of living in Poland will rise considerably and mad speculation will begin! But in spite of this effort to damp the desire of the workers for peace, the meeting passed a resolution unanimously demanding immediate peace with Soviet Russia.

#### After the War for Liberty.

American capitalism finds itself in accord with the capitalist class everywhere in its persecution of all those that dare to think otherwise than capitalism allows.

The spectre of the victory of the Bolshevik section of the Romanian Socialist Party has so terrified the bourgeoisie of Roumania and the boyars (nobles) that, through the former Liberal Minister, G. Marzesco, they have threatened the Socialist leaders with death. The press, in the time of the Bratiano Liberals as in that of the Marghiloman Conservatives or the Ionescu "democrats," has, of course, long maintained this attitude. The government is taking steps to crush liberties if the Party adheres to the Third International. There are today over 100,000 persons prosecuted or sentenced for political offences. The courts martial are at work, sentencing hundreds and thousands of innocent people. Eighth children were recently sentenced to a total of 26 years' imprisonment.

The state of siege has only been raised in Old Roumania. In Bessarabia, those who are dissatisfied with the Roumanian occupation are thrown into the Dniester, and the Bessarabian ministers, Inculet and Cingareame have declared in the Roumanian Parliament that they are "proud of this work." In this way many of the best comrades have perished, amongst others the well-known Russian Socialist-Revolutionary, Natasha Grunfeld. Socialist papers are forbidden in Bessarabia and a part of Transylvania. Thousands of Hungarian prisoners are kept in a pitiable state.

#### Theory and Practice.

At a meeting of the German Social Democratic Party, February 23rd, Noske said: "The cost of living is increasing day by day, and under such altered circumstances we must act differently from what we had thought and even expressed when we were still in opposition. It is true that I who before and during the war was opposed to all exceptional laws have now at my disposal hitherto unknown powers. Things have indeed turned out differently from what we had at one time thought in the party. But exceptional circumstances require exceptional measures. . . . the discontent amongst the masses will not vanish so quickly, for we shall have to live through years of economic want. . . . before we attain a normal condition of affairs." Frank, anyway. Before the revolution we can indulge in fine phrases: when it is upon us — then exceptional measures of stifling it are essential until we get again normal (capitalist) conditions

— then we can begin to talk again.

Though butcher Noske is eliminated at present, his theories, nevertheless, interest us, as they are the quintessence of the wisdom of a socialist government, as exercised on contemplated by the Schiedemanns and Noskes in all countries. So workers, beware!

#### The Balkan Communist Federation.

An Athens message printed in "Le Populaire" of March 4th, states: "On January 15th, 1920, there was held a conference of the Balkan Communist Federation, constituted by the Bulgarian Communist Party, the Serbian Communist Labor Party, the Greek Socialist Labor Party, and the Roumanian Socialist Party. Amongst the decisions of the conference, the following was the most important: 'The conference, having taken into consideration the international and inter-Balkan situation, resolves on the transformation of the Balkan Socialist Federation into a Communist Federation, affiliated to the Third International.'

This Federation will be the Balkan Section of the Third International, and accepts all its principles and the decisions of its Congresses.

#### Communism Marches on in Bulgaria.

"La Nouvelle Internationale" of March states: "In spite of persecution, the Communist movement is developing rapidly. 80,000 copies of Bukharin's 'Communist Programme' have been sold. All the important town councils are in the hands of the Communists, and their meetings are packed. The Government of Stambulinsky has to rely on a White Guard paid 100 leva a day, and organized with the help of the French General d'Esperely.

Bulgaria has become a centre of reaction, thanks to the solicitations of the Entente. As a protest against the reception of General Denikin, the Socialist Party proclaimed a general strike, on December 25th, which was still in progress on February 18th. Against it the Government has had recourse to all methods: the army, machine guns, cannon, imprisonment of the leaders (Lukanoff). Those still at liberty have had to go into hiding (Kabakieff, Kolaroff, Dimitroff). The Bulgarian proletariat is fighting stubbornly for the Communist ideal.

#### Compulsory Labor.

The American capitalist press has found another proof of the inhumanity of the Soviet Government in Russia. The workers' Government has decreed compulsory labor. What a crime! That is, what a crime for the workers in Russia to be compelled to work! In America, compulsory labor is a standing institution, decreed by the capitalists. By penalty of death by starvation, or imprisonment for vagrancy, the American working class is compelled to work. But the capitalists only work the workers. Now the workers in Russia have decreed that everybody must work, really everybody, even the capitalists themselves. What a crime! How inhuman!

Here is the manifesto, issued by the commissariat of labor of the Soviet government in Russia: "The Soviet Republic has defeated the armies of the generals and the capitalists. It must now enter upon the rebuilding of its economic organization.

Permanent, constant, and heroic labor must be henceforward the watchword for all. To bring corn to the towns, the transport system must be set in order and the railways re-established. To fight typhus, the towns must be cleaned. To help in the rebirth of industry, fuel must be obtained and transported. Compulsory labor for all, such is our call. The creation of a many-millioned army of labor, such is our aim. Labor, of whatsoever kind it be, is at present a sacred duty for every citizen. The deserter from labor murders children, reinforces the blockade and the general misery.

The Soviet Government has organized a Central Committee for Compulsory Labor the object of which will be to enforce this new obligation everywhere, to draw everyone into the task of building a new future, and of fighting against the sufferings of the people.

To struggle effectively against typhus, People's Regiments must be created. No Soviet institution must be without a committee for compulsory labor. In every factory, workshop, works, house, a committee must be created to organize compulsory labor. There must be no deserters. It is an honorable duty for all. A difficult period demands the greatest possible sacrifice. We are moving towards a new era rich in promise of victory and peace."

# Communist Labor Party News

## NOW TAKE NOTE!

We have sent an allotment of INTERNATIONAL LABOR DAY stamps to every organized point. These RED STAMPS must be called to the attention of all comrades and friends, all unionists you can get into touch with, all who UNDERSTAND the significance of MAY FIRST—yes, and those whom you can get to understand it. EVERY COMRADE MUST BE PLACED AT WORK SELLING THESE STAMPS TO OTHERS. May Day is the day upon which this is to be done.

These stamps sell for 25 cents each. Each book contains 20 stamps. Each book sells for \$5.00. Out of each book sold the group retains \$1.00, the district secretary \$1.00 and \$3.00 are sent to the national office.

We say this. EVERY comrade should buy a WHOLE BOOK. Every comrade should contribute \$5.00 to the movement this International Labor Day. EVERY comrade should then sell as many books of stamps as he can to others.

As we wrote you before, four Com-

munist Saturdays a year will from now on be celebrated by the party. The first of these Communist Saturdays happens upon Saturday, May First, International Labor Day. We call upon comrades, upon all workers NOT TO WORK upon this day, to give the entire day to the party, to sell International Labor Day stamps upon this day, to do the other tasks which shall be given you. First then, celebrate this May First by purchasing a FULL BOOK of stamps yourself, and then get busy selling them to your fellow workers.

### DO IT!

Do not hesitate about it. These are "Do" days. Capitalism is breaking up. We must organize and BUILD UP. You are to help BUILD, to help DO.

Report AT ONCE to your organization. Buy your allotment of International Labor Day Stamps. Secure some to sell to other workers.

WORK THIS INTERNATIONAL LABOR DAY, MAY 1st, 1920, FOR THE PARTY.

## NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS

A regular meeting of the National Executive Committee was held January 3rd and adjourned meetings on January 4th, 5th, 23rd, and February 15. Many conferences were held between these dates. The questions discussed and decided pertained to important party activities, including the question of unity. Upon this latter question full report has been made from time to time in Communist Labor. Other decisions have been communicated to the organization through other channels.

Recently the N. E. C. held another three days' session. We here give a synopsis, such as we can under the circumstances, of actions taken and subjects considered.

Executive Secretary reported. Credentials were issued to alternate international delegate. Many communications were read and acted upon, communications which sought to further the necessary work in the party districts.

Arrangements were made for an immediate action committee to take charge of important party matters in crises. The question of propaganda, methods for same, etc., were given particular attention.

Plans were laid for the observance of International Labor Day, May 1st. These will reach the sub-divisions in due time. The unity conferences which were going on between the C. P. and our organization were reviewed and action taken for an answer to the most recent offer of the C. P.

New organization forms were again reviewed and amended. Rules and the new form are now considered perfected and will be given the membership.

An encouraging report upon literature was made. National convention preliminaries were gone into. A full discussion regarding defense tactics

brought forth important decisions. It was decided not to sanction the employment of any attorney of the type of Stedman for defense purposes. An address to the defense committees and party membership will be drafted upon the question of defense tactics.

A decision was reached asking members not to surrender in response to indictments, but that indicted members shall continue their work under such safeguards as will make interference impossible.

The matter of printing facilities received due attention. National Executive Committee and Executive Secretary substitutes were elected. Report from Committee secretaries was received.

A new labor committee was elected to draft rules for the organization of shop committees and suitable leaflets as to the difference between shop committees of the C. L. P. and those of other organizations.

Finances, the Third International, Organization (including specific tours) all were debated for hours and such action was taken as will greatly strengthen the C. L. P.

The net result of this last meeting of the party N. E. C. gave all who attended it to understand that our organization is increasing its power and usefulness to the movement, especially under the new organization form. Our potential strength is such as to make it possible to secure a solidification of communist elements which will build a mighty party. Members, who because they have been somewhat removed from party activities due to persecutions have become inactive, must now take courage and begin the duties which devolve upon them. New affiliations are being had in gratifying numbers. In short, the party today possess more inherent strength than when organized.

### C. L. P. IN PETROGRAD

(This note is taken from Ekonomicheskoy Zisn (economic Life) official organ of the Central Executive of the Supreme Council of Public Economy.)

On the 20th of November, representatives of the Communist Labor Party of America, who had arrived in Petrograd, inspected various establishments under the management of the Petrograd Cooperatives. At the central office, the American guests were made acquainted with the details of the work being carried out by the chief departments, Technical diagrams and plans being used in the work of distribution were carefully inspected.

Of special interest were the methods used to distribute food to the people. Our American guests were familiarized with rules governing the apportionment of food to classes, such as the heavy laborers, children, etc. The system for bread baking and the group of food distribution agitators were entirely new to them.

The Comrades from America were highly interested in the work of the shops and showed great pleasure in the explanations which were given by the responsible workers under the management of Comrade Putschkov. The guests will also visit the great baking factories, the community restaurants, and others of the large establishments which will serve to give them a closer understanding of the methods of life of present Petrograd society.

### THE CHICAGO CASES

The case of the national, Illinois and Chicago officials of the Communist Labor Party will go to trial early in May. These are probably the most important cases immediately before the party for they involve a charge of conspiracy to overthrow the government.

The conspiracy is supposed to have taken place at the national convention of the C. L. P. held last fall. In a hall open to everyone, in which several agents of the Department of Justice and a good sprinkling of Chicago detectives found seats and were not asked their business, a conspiracy is supposed to have been hatched.

One of our most active comrades in Chicago writes: "I just want to say in reference to the comrades here, that we are all standing firm. Our group of active workers is not large, but we shall stick to the finish. Especially will those indicted stand their ground. We are undaunted and not in the least intimidated, for we are confident that whatever may come of this trial, the ruling class is powerless before the advance of the awakened workers. They may succeed in sending some of us to the penitentiary; we shall not complain; we know that many others will be left to continue the good work."

### SPIES

Not that the C. L. P. cares at all, for spies only accelerate the forward movement of the workers. But spies as a rule are provocateurs and for this reason we desire to put all members on guard.

It is reported that Frank Russell, 618 Fullerton Bldg., St. Louis, who posed at the C. L. P. national convention last September as an official of an independent Hungarian federation, is an agent of Palmer. A man known as Leonard Copeland also comes under this head.

A Russian Jew, known by the name of Zakaroff and who claims to live in Moline, has been in the company of four professional spies for some days past and is helping them to work their game in New York city.

Abrahams, well known in Chicago, Cleveland and New York, is under other occupation except to visit members of the C. L. P. and C. P. to secure suspicion. He seems to engage in no party information which he then uses, one against the other.

Strangers who flash red cards, or who claim to be the best friends of members in other cities, or who seem anxious to get information from you which is strictly of an organization character, must not be confided in. In fact, confide in no one unless you are absolutely sure of his loyalty.

### WANTED: C. L. P. NEWS

Any one having a copy or several copies of the first issue of Communist Labor Party News, the large four page issue printed immediately after the Chicago Convention, or of the second issue of the C. L. P. news printed on pink paper, is asked to send the same thru regular party channels, to the National Office by first class mail.

### The Czech Movement

According to the Berling "Freiheit," the left wing of the Czech Social-Democratic Party held a congress at Prague, December, 1919, where it adopted a definite programme. This programme begins by pointing out the nationalist oppressive imperialist character of the new Czechoslovak state which involves the rule to the Czech bourgeoisie of over 3,500,000 South Germans, hundreds of thousands of Slovaks, Poles, Ruthenians, and Magyars. For this, as well as for the reactionary economic and military policy of the new State, the Czech Social Democracy, being in coalition with the bourgeoisie, must bear its share of responsibility. Hence the formation of this Internationalist group, which is supported by a number of important districts.

The programme points out that when fighting for independence as a nation, the Czech workers were often obliged to work side by side with the bourgeoisie; this period is now ended. The Czechs have won national independence—the Czech workers want now to win Socialism.

### DUES ARE DUE

Don't wait for the Secretary or treasurer of your organization to call on you before you pay your dues. Hunt him up and thrust your dues upon him. It will be quite a shock, but we believe he will survive it, and live happily ever after.

Seriously, Comrades, you must not let the fact that we can not hold public meetings interfere with the regular payment of dues. The more difficult the struggle, the more the dues are needed to finance the work of the organization.

Every member who owes dues should pay up AT ONCE. Dues are fifty cents a month, that makes two dollars per member for the months of January, February, March and April. No matter what other contributions you make, no matter how much you donate for defense, remember that you are not a member in good standing, you are not affiliated with the Third International, unless you pay your dues.

Only a printer's error, but in this instance the error tells the truth. In an article in a Socialist Party paper we read that "as for the fall election, Mayor Hoan declared that the party would win seats for two congressmen and at least 35 assemblymen."

### A New Member.

According to the "Daily Herald" of March 2nd, the Danish Left Socialist Party, at its recent Congress, definitely adhered to the Third International.

### ORGANIZE ON THE JOB

The program of the Communist Labor Party adopted at the national Convention last fall emphasized the importance of organizing shop committees. We urge every local group immediately to push this work with all speed.

The old form of Party organization was adapted primarily to the needs of political campaigning. It necessarily followed rather strictly the lines of political subdivisions laid out by the master class. It would have been very difficult to grow away from this to the form of organization competent to achieve power, if recent experiences had not demonstrated the absolute necessity of it.

We thank Mr. Palmer and his local lickspittles for helping to teach us this lesson. Let us show our appreciation of this service by pushing with redoubled energy the organization of our groups in the different industries. If you have not already done so, begin to APPLY that Communist Labor Party program at once with the development of shop committees. And whatever you do, remember we organize for POWER.

### WHERE ARE WE AT?

First, let us hear what the New York Times has to say. It is wonderful wisdom, Here 'tis:

"The root of the disorder of the exchanges is that we have too many goods for our own use, and that foreign buyers have too little money to relieve us of them. The alternatives are that we should consume more than is good for us, or that foreign buyers should go without what they ought to have to keep themselves in health."

Second — forward steps Attorney General Palmer with this pearl:

"It is clearly recognized that the present unrest and tendency toward radicalism arise from social and economic conditions that are of greater consequence than the individual agitators."

And third — comes a reply from Senator Bourne who says:

"Mr. Palmer says that these deplorable social and economic conditions are 'clearly recognized.' By whom? Are they recognized by the hundreds of thousands of wage-earners who, according to the merchants in all parts of the country, will not be satisfied to buy ordinary substantial clothing but demand expensive silk shirts, shoes, clothing, etc.?"

Now then, where are we at? The Times insists that we have too many goods for our own use. Palmer intimates that it is because we do not live amidst plenty, that radicalism and unrest result. Bourne contends that workers are buying with more avidity than that shown by the champion bargain sale addict the expensive silk shirts, silk shoes and silk clothing for sale by merchants the country over.

Capitalism does not know where it is at and these three spokesmen for capitalism do not know where it is at. As some one has said — the present period is that of the dissolution of capitalism, and when anything begins to dissolve, it's to be expected that it assumes a messy and indefinite form.

**DON'T WORK  
MAY FIRST  
International  
Labor Day  
HERE'S YOUR TASK  
FOR THIS FIRST  
COMMUNIST  
SATURDAY**